REMARKS

The subject paper is submitted in response to an Office Action dated April 4, 2006. The Examiner rejected claims 1-4 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Dunser et al (US 6955245).

Applicant has canceled the original claims 1-4 and added new claims 5-12.

The new set of claims more distinctly and clearly sets forth the novel features of the invention which are directed to minimizing the amount of space occupied by local elevator shafts. These new features are neither taught nor suggested either alone or in combination by the prior art.

Based on the foregoing Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the subject rejection.

CONCLUSION

Inasmuch as neither the structure nor function of Applicant's invention has been anticipated or made obvious, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claims 5-12. Should the Examiner feel a phone interview would be helpful in processing the subject application, please do not hesitate to call the undersigned.

Please charge any fee for this statement to Deposit Account No. 15-0750, Order No. OT-

Respectfully submitted,

Masazumi Urata

Thomas H. Osborn Registration No. 40,752

Otis Elevator Company Ten Farm Springs Farmington, CT 06032 Telephone: (860) 676-5041